

In the Claims:

Please amend the claims as follows:

Claim 1) (Currently Amended) A device for coupling to kites and other like sports equipment comprising a releasable hook mechanism, which is designed to indirectly attach to a kite, attached to a spreader bar, which is designed to attach directly to a kite user, said releasable hook mechanism comprising a releasable hook pivotally attached to a body that attached to the spreader bar, said releasable hook pivotally movable from a closed position to an open position.

Claim 2) (Original) The device according to claim 1 wherein the releasable hook is resiliently biased from the closed position to the open position.

Claim 3) (Original) The device according to claim 2 further comprising a release plate mechanism that releasably holds the rotatable hook in the closed position.

Claim 4) (Original) The device according to claim 3 further comprising a release defeat mechanism that prevents release of the rotatable hook by the release plate mechanism.

Claim 5) (Previously Amended) The device according to claim 4 further comprising a rotating safety release attachment ring that is rotatably attached to the body of the device.

Claim 6) (Currently Amended) A method for coupling to kites and other like sports equipment comprising the steps of providing a releasable hook mechanism, which is designed to indirectly attach to a kite, attached to a spreader bar, which is designed to attach directly to a kite user, said releasable hook mechanism comprising a releasable

hook pivotally attached to a body that attached to the spreader bar, said releasable hook pivotally movable from a closed position to an open position.

Claim 7) (Original) The method according to claim 6 wherein the releasable hook is resiliently biased from the closed position to the open position.

Claim 8) (Original) The method according to claim 7 further comprising a release plate mechanism that releasably holds the rotatable hook in the closed position.

Claim 9) (Original) The method according to claim 8 further comprising a release defeat mechanism that prevents release of the rotatable hook by the release plate mechanism.

Claim 10) (Previously Amended) The method according to claim 9 further comprising a rotating safety release attachment ring that is rotatably attached to the body of the device.

Claim 11) (Currently Amended) A method for coupling and uncoupling to kites and other like sports equipment comprising the steps of attached lines to a releasable hook mechanism, which is designed to indirectly attach to a kite, attached to a spreader bar, which is designed to attach directly to a kite user, said releasable hook mechanism comprising a releasable hook pivotally attached to a body that attached to the spreader bar, said releasable hook pivotally movable from a closed position to an open position, when the releasable hook is in the closed position, and, afterwards, allowing the releasable hook to pivotally move from the closed position to the open position thereby releasing any attached lines.

Claim 12) (Original) The method according to claim 6 wherein the releasable hook is resiliently biased from the closed position to the open position.

Claim 13) (Original) The method according to claim 7 further comprising a release plate mechanism that releasably holds the rotatable hook in the closed position.

Claim 14) (Original) The method according to claim 8 further comprising a release defeat mechanism that prevents release of the rotatable hook by the release plate mechanism.

Claim 15) (Previously Amended) The method according to claim 9 further comprising a rotating safety release attachment ring that is rotatably attached to the body of the device.